

Aviation Division

September 2002

WSDOT Aviation Division To Support AIR-21

Recently the Division met with Larry Ehl, WSDOT Federal Liaison to strategize a plan for Washington to support reauthorization of AIR-21 for federal aviation transportation. We are preparing a formal position for WSDOT, utilizing a coalition of airports, pilots and the airlines with an emphasis on the importance of the non-primary entitlement funding program for general aviation airports, and airport/airspace security requirements and the need to alleviate the impacts of TFRs.

The Division has also contacted Henry Ograodzinski, Director of the National Association of State Aviation Officials regarding legislative committee positions, which may become available in the near future. There has been some disagreement among the board regarding the importance of the AIR 21 Non-primary entitlement funding. Western states favor the federal funding and need to have a greater voice on the board. The Division has asked Henry to put forward John Sibold in an effort to secure a place on the AASHTO Aviation sub-committee.

Rural Airport Study Valued

Theresa Smith, Manager Aviation Services, participated in an interview with the U.S. General Accounting Office on Washington State's experience with the FAA non-primary entitlement-funding program for small airports. The interviewer was intrigued with our efforts to further the continuation of the program and substantiating the value of the funding program through our Rural Airport Study and requested a copy of the study.

Lake Isabelle -Wild Sky Wilderness



Lake Isabelle, pictured above, will be included as part of the Wild Sky Wildness area bill currently making its way through Congress. Floatplane pilots have been landing on the Lake since the 1920s. The Washington Seaplane Pilots' Association and its national affiliate, the Seaplane Pilots' Association and other supporters of the bill say the intent of the bill would allow them to continue landing on the lake, but the



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report language is not specific enough. They are trying to have the bill include specific language about the historical use of floatplanes on the lake. They believe that specific language allowing floatplanes to continue to land on the lake will help avoid confusion in the future. The Wild Sky Wilderness Act of 2002, Senate Bill #2565 and House Bill #4844, was introduced in May. Aviation Division Director John Sibold took the photo on a recent visit to the lake.

Aviation Services

Airport Systems Plan Update

To date, the data collection of arm of the state's continuous airport system planning remains on track, on budget, and is generating the results anticipated. The site visits are ¾ complete and the data collected, including survey work for assessing future instrument approaches will be analyzed and processed over the next several months. We added the survey work and 5010s with funding from the FAA and the work will be complete by February 2003.

The inventory update provides an understanding of development needs at airports for both the WSDOT Airport Aid Program and the FAA National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems. This update is especially helpful in generating accurate runway end coordinates and obstacles for obstruction evaluations and for the future GPS approach opportunities in Washington.

Land Use and Planning

The Aviation Division is concerned and dedicated to helping communities in the state of Washington with their land use planning to ensure that public use airports will be protected. The following are activities that the planning group were involved with in the month of August. Most of these are ongoing activities.

City of Chelan

The City of Chelan is proposing to create an island urban growth area around airport and is looking for input from the Aviation Division. Both the City and the Aviation Division see the need to establish policies within their Comprehensive Plan and Development regulation for the protection of the airport from incompatible land uses.

Josh Noles from the City of Chelan will be sending the city's comprehensive plan to Planning Commission in October and would like to work with the Aviation Division on methods for protecting the airport.

City of Yakima

The Aviation Division assisted the City of Yakima on the proposed development regulation for the 700-acre Congdon rezone adjacent to the airport. This is the second step in the process as the city council accepted the rezone request from the proponent several weeks ago. The development regulation as written does not interfere with full



UPCOMING EVENTS

SEPTEMBER

CFI Refresher Clinic

September 14 &15 – Ramada Inn Spokane Airport (800) 552-0666

Classic Cars & Airplanes @ The Museum

September 21
Pearson Air Museum
(360) 694-7026

The Great Prosser Balloon Rally

September 27-29
Prosser Airport
1 (800) 408-1517

Wings of Freedom Airshow

September 28 Fairchild AFB (509) 247-8119/7425

OCTOBER

Practice SAR Mission

October 12-13 Arlington (800) 552-0666

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implementation of the Airport Safety Overlay, a primary goal for the Division.

Theresa Smith, WSDOT Aviation Services Manager, participated in formal mediation with the Eastern Washington Growth Management Hearings Board at the request of the City of Yakima, Congdon developers and the opponents of the development. She served as a technical advisor during the discussions to assist the parties in further defining implementation of the ASO to protect the Yakima Air Terminal.

Marysville/Smokey Point

The City of Marysville presented the Division with a sub area plan for the Smokey Point area. Marysville is proposing numerous land use changes near the Arlington Airport. The preferred alternative proposes commercial and industrial lands near the airport. Additionally, any wetland-banking program would be located a least 5,000 feet away from the Airport.

The Division will be suggesting some plan text amendments that would include defining and restricting incompatible land use activity near the airport and classifying the Airport as an essential public facility.

Walla Walla County

Dick Cheney and a concerned citizen Carlos Grateda have contacted the Division regarding Martin Field in Walla Walla County. They are concerned with several proposed subdivisions planned adjacent to the airport. One subdivision is located near one of the runway approach surfaces. They are concerned that encroaching incompatible land uses may eventually threaten the viability of the Airport. The Department sent a comment letter with several recommendations.

Pierce County-Tacoma Narrows Airport

The Division recently reviewed and provided draft recommendations on proposed amendments to the Pierce County Code for the Tacoma Narrows Airport. Proposed amendments include an ordinance to form an Airport Advisory Committee and changes to the PUD ordinance for Rural Airports. Proposed code amendments are for the purposes of implementing the comprehensive plan and agreement between Gig Harbor, the City of Tacoma and Pierce County.

Online Pilot Registration Plans Moving Forward

As part of our efforts to explore options for streamlining and increasing our aircraft and pilot registrations, the Division teamed with WSDOT Ferries in an effort to provide online pilot and aircraft registration for our customers. The Division intends to provide the online service by January 2003.



-August -New Registrations:

Pilots: 517 Aircraft: 28 2002 Year To Date

Pilots: 5608 Aircraft: 3937

2001 Year to Date:

Pilots: 5678 Aircraft: 4072

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Task Forces and Committees

Airport Aid Grant Program Task Force August Meeting

The Airport Aid Task Force held their August meeting in Ellensburg on August 29th. The meeting was well-attended by the task force members and significant progress was made towards recommending funding priorities, eligibility criteria and threshold selection criteria.

Next meeting is scheduled for September 18th in Ellensburg. Future agendas and meeting minutes will be available on the Division website at www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation.

JLARC Committee Accepts Report

The Joint Legislative Audit Review Committee (JLARC) met recently at the Marriott Hotel; SeaTac, WA. The committee voted unanimously without discussion to accept their staff's final report recommending that the Aviation Division continue to remain part of the WSDOT.

Aviation Alliance Task Force

The next meeting of the Aviation Alliance (Aviation Advisory Group) is scheduled for September 12. Discussion will include the permanent formation of Aviation Advisory Group. A recommendation will go to the Commission at the September Meeting. Please see web site for the meeting agenda and location.

Aviation Operations

Pilot Controlled Lighting System Repaired

The City of Chewelah was having problems with their pilot-controlled lighting system at the Sand Canyon Airport. They have the old Apollo equipment and since the Division still had one left in our inventory, we delivered a new lighting control box to them. The Division conducted a site visit during the week of September to troubleshoot the pilot-controlled lighting system and assist with the installation and aiming of their Precision Approach Path Indicator (PAPI).

National Park Service Request

The National Park Service (NPS) headquarters in Denver requested advise regarding commercial service operations into Stehekin. According to the NPS, they have a contractor who is building a new residence for the Park Ranger at Stehekin and they would like to be able to charter flights into the airport. They asked if WSDOT would have a problem with that. It was explained to them that the WSDOT Aviation Division operates the Stehekin State Airport through a special use permit with the NPS and that the NPS is the agency that has



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stipulated there be no commercial service operations in to, or out of, the airport. The Division requested that if the NPS decides to waive the no commercial service operations condition for this contractor that they inform us in writing of such determination.

Search and Rescue

Air SAR events:

- ELT Distress Beacons: Lost River, Spokane, Paine, Large, Spokane, Renton, Port Townsend, Lake Youngs, ELT Distress Beacons: Spokane, Renton, Seattle, Fairchild, Felts Field, Vancouver, Seattle
- Overdue aircraft: Hoquiam, Skagit, Kelso, Whidbey, Paine.
- · Accidents: Republic, Orcas Island.
- Due to wildfires, the Temporary Flight Restrictions are still effect in the Northwest. However the restricted areas change each day and a synopsis would not be current as of press-time of this report.

Database of Airports

Developed a method for downloading on to a PDA, from our website, a complete database listing of Washington airports. In an effort to modernize our 'Pilot Guide' book, all pertinent information will be available in the lowest common denominator for all interested parties. The size of the database would allow us to add all 800 airports to the 156 public airports we currently carry. I have also been able to add Idaho and Oregon. Next step is to update the info currently on file.

Up Coming Seminars and Clinics

Pilot Safety Seminar

The Division has agreed to sponsor a Pilot Safety Seminar in Moses Lake, January 2002, which will focus on improving flying skills required to operate aircraft from rural airfields in Eastern Washington. This additional education sponsorship is consistent with our business plan to expand our role in aviation education across the state.

CFI Refresher Clinic Set for September/November

The Certified Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic will be held at the Ramada Inn near the Spokane International Airport on Saturday, September 14 and Sunday, September 15. The CFI Refresher course will also be held on Saturday November 16 and Sunday November 17 in the Seattle area. For more information please see the Aviation Division web site or call to register at (360) 651-6300 or 1 (800) 552-0666.



WSDOT Aviation Division Team

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